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Stated Meeting, January 19th, 1877.

Present, 19 members.

Vice-President, Mr. PRICE, in the Chair.

A letter of envoy was received from the Imp. Botanical Gardens of St. Petersburg, Aug. 15, 1876.

Donations for the Library were received from the Mining Bureau at Melbourne; R. Acad. at Turin; S. Vin. Fiorentino of Naples; the Ulm Art Union; R. Acad. at Brussels; Rev. Pol. and Nature; Cobden Club; Canadian J. of Science, Toronto; Essex Institute; S. N. H. Boston; S. C. E. Boston; Hon. W. W. Crapo, of New Bedford; Sill. Journal; Amer. Chemist; Med. News; A. J. Med. Sciences; Penn Monthly; Franklin Institute; Geol. Survey of Pa; E. D. Cope; Ordnance Department U. S. A., and Corps of Engineers.

No. 98 of the Proceedings just published was laid on the table for the inspection of the members.

The Secretary presented a communication entitled: On the first systematic collection and discussion of the Venango Co. oil wells of Western Pennsylvania, by E. S. Nettleton, C. E., prepared for publication and communicated by J. F. Carll, Asst. Geol. Sur. Pa. in charge of the Survey of the Oil Regions.

Gen. Kane read a description of his recent explorations in Coahuila, Mexico, exhibiting photographs of Mexican soldiers, and describing the movement of the Indian population southward still going on.

Dr. König described his success in establishing a scale of colorimetry for minerals containing titanitic acid, &c. and explained his processes.

Mr. Blodget brought to the notice of the Society the text of a proposed Act of Congress ordering a new Arctic expe-

dition, the discussion of which was postponed to the next meeting: viz—

And be it further enacted, That the President of the United States be authorized to organize and send out one or more expeditions toward the North Pole, and to establish a temporary colony, for purposes of exploration, at some point north of the eighty-first degree of north latitude on or near the shore of Lady Franklin Bay ; to detail such officers or other persons of the public service to take part in the same as may be necessary, and to use any public vessel that may be suitable for the purpose ; the scientific operations of the expedition to be prosecuted in accordance with the advice of the National Academy of Science, and that the sum of fifty thousand dollars, or such part thereof as may be necessary, be hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be expended under the direction of the President. *Provided,* That no part of the sum so appropriated shall be carried to the surplus fund or covered into the Treasury until the purpose of the appropriation shall have been completed, but may be applied to expenses of said expedition incurred during any subsequent year that said expedition may be engaged in its duties.

On motion, Mr. Lesley was elected Librarian for the ensuing year.

The following nominations were made and on motion adopted :

Standing Committees for 1877 :

Finance.

Mr. Frederick Fraley,
Mr. E. K. Price,
Mr. Benjamin V. Marsh.

Publication.

Dr. John L. LeConte,
Dr. Daniel M. Brinton,
Mr. W. M. Tilghman,
Dr. Harrison Allen,
Dr. C. M. Cresson.

Hall.

Gen. Hector Tyndale,
Mr. Edward Hopper,
Mr. S. W. Roberts.

Library.

Mr. Eli K. Price,
 Rev. Charles T. Krauth,
 Dr. George H. Horn,
 Dr. Kinderdine,
 Prof. Houston.

The reading of the list of surviving members was postponed.

The election of new members was postponed to the next meeting.

And the meeting was adjourned.

Stated Meeting, February 2nd, 1877.

Present, 24 members.

Vice-President, Mr. E. K. PRICE, in the Chair.

The photograph of Mr. Daniel B. Smith was received for insertion in the album.

A letter accepting his appointment to prepare an obituary notice of the late Dr. Jos. Carson, was received from Dr. John B. Biddle, dated Jan. 24, 1877.

Letters of acknowledgment were received from the Royal Society at Upsal (93, 94, 95; XV ii). Royal Bavarian Academy, November 19, 1876 (XII i, ii, iii; 93, 94, 95). Prof. L. Rüttimeyer, Basil, November 6, 1876 (95); Literary and Philosophical Society, Liverpool, January 5, 77 (97), and the University Library at Strasburg (92—95).

Letters of envoy were received from the Royal Society, New South Wales, Sydney, July 12, 1876; Royal Statistical Society, Upsal; Royal Academy, Stockholm; Royal Bava-